PAGE 184 B. S. 3-1-02

Docket No.: 1059-007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK PATENT OPERATION

In re Application of:

Barry Libin

) Group Art Unit: 1614

Serial No.: 09/224,781

) Examiner: Rose, S.K.

Filed: January 4, 1999

For: METHOD OF PREVENTING AND TREATING MUCOSAL AND

DERMAL CONDITIONS

New York, NY 10036 November 6, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

LETTER

This Letter is being filed in response to the Office Action that was mailed October 5, 2000.

In response to the requirement to elect a cationic antimicrobial agent and a species of disease selected from mucositis, fungus disease infection or herpetic infection, the applicant elects cetylpyridinium chloride as the cationic antimicrobial agent and fungus disease infection as the species of disease, with traverse.

The Examiner has not shown that independent and distinct inventions are present as required by the terms of 35 U.S.C.§121 and has based the requirement on an allegation that separate and burdensome fields of search are required. A full search has been made and it does not appear that any additional search is required which would be burdensome. The Examiner has cited 22 references which points to complete and thorough search which has previously been carried out. For these reasons, it is requested that this requirement be withdrawn.

The Examiner's attention is directed to copending application Serial No.09/168,950 filed October 9, 1998 wherein the Declaration of Norman Spainhour attests to the unexpected results which flow from the combination of triclosan and cetyl pyridinium chloride on Candida albicans.

Respectfully_submitted,

ames V. Costigan Reg. No. 25,669

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Case No.: 1059-007

Serial No.: 09/224,781 Filed: January 4, 1999

Date Mailed: November 6, 2000 (w/Certificate of Mailing)

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AMENDMENT

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